- To make rules and guidelines for experiments on animals.

The broad duties and responsibilities of Animal Welfare Board of India are:—

- Advisory Role to the Central Government
- Grant of Financial Assistance to AWOs/NGOs
- Creation of awareness in Animal Welfare
- Establishment of State Animal Welfare Boards
- Conduct of training programme in Animal Welfare

(b) The exact date for holding international conference on "Alternatives to the use of Animals in Research and Education" has not been decided. Logistic arrangements for the same have also not begun.

(c) and (d) Complaints regarding ill-treatment to animals during experiments are received by CPCSEA and include:

- Violation of Good Laboratory Practices (GLP)
- Unhygienic condition of animal houses *i.e.* dark and damp rooms with no ventilation.
- Diseased animals and animals with poor health used for experimentation.
- Animals being kept in small cages for long.
- Contaminated food and unclean drinking water given to the animals.
- Non-availability of veterinary care.

AWBI receives complaints regarding cruelty to animals which are broadly of the Nature Listed under Section-11 of Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 and matter is taken up with concerned District Collectors/Superintendent of Police for taking suitable action.

Utilization of amount for Uttaranchal Forestry Projects

†2562.SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Question 4341 given in the Rajya Sabha on 31st August, 2001 and state:

(a) whether the amount of around one thousand million rupees, allocated to Uttaranchal under the bifurcated WB assisted UP Forestry Projects during 2000-2001 and 2001-2002, has been utilized during these two years; if so, the details of works accomplished there, under it; and

(b) whether public participation for development of forests has been ensured; if so, the details of the beneficiaries?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) An amount of Rs. 49.90 crore has been utilised under the bifurcated Uttar Pradesh-Uttaranchal Forestry Project during 2000-2001 and 2001- 2002. The remaining amount is proposed to be utilised during 2002-03 and 2003-04 as the Credit Closing date for the Uttar Pradesh-Uttaranchal Forestry Project has been extended till July 2003. The works carried out include raising of high productivity plantations, assisted natural regeneration of sal and oak, Joint Forest Management, Fire protection, habitat management, eco-development, studies and training programmes.

(b) Public participation has been ensured through the formation of 1217 Village Forest Committees. The members of these committees are the beneficiaries under the Project.

Illegal export of peacock feathers

2563. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been an increase in the number of cases of poaching for peacock feathers;

(b) if so, the quantity of peacock feathers seized during the last two years;

(c) the countries to which peacock feathers are being illegally exported; and

(d) the action being taken to check poaching of peacocks in the country?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Isolated cases of killing of peacocks for their meat have been detected in various States from time to time. But, there are no reports regarding killing of peacocks exclusively for obtaining feathers.